

FILING FOR OFFICE



DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

(RCW 29A.20.021, RCW 29A.24)

At the time of filing, a candidate's voter registration data will be checked. If there are discrepancies, corrections to the voter registration file must be completed before the Declaration of Candidacy can be accepted. When filing for an office, candidates are not permitted to use a nickname that denotes present or past occupation, military rank, the candidate's position on issues or political affiliation, or use a nickname designed to intentionally mislead voters. A candidate's last name must match the last name under which he/she is registered to vote.

RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR FILING

All candidates must be properly registered to vote in the district represented by the office at the time of filing. The officer with whom declarations are filed shall review each declaration for compliance with this law.

FILING FEES:

A filing fee equal to 1% of the salary of the position a person is filing for is required. If there is no salary, then there is no filing fee. No refunds will be given (RCW 29A.24.091, 31). Please see RCW 29A.24.091, 101, 111, RCW 29A.84.261 for filing petition requirements, procedures, and penalties for improper signing.

WHERE AND WHEN TO FILE DECLARATIONS OF CANDIDACY (RCW 29A.24.070)

In Person (May 16, 2016 – May 20, 2016) Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

All Candidates file with the Grant County Auditor's Office, 35 C St. NW, Room 203, Ephrata, WA 98823.

Online (May 16, 2016 thru May 20, 2016)

For filing online with the Grant County Auditor's Office go to www.grantcountywa.gov following the links from the Auditor's page to Elections and Candidate Information. Online filing is available beginning Monday, May 16th at 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 P.M. on Friday, May 20th.

Mail-In (May 2, 2016 through May 20th, 2016)

Any candidate may mail in a Declaration of Candidacy for an office starting May 2nd. Any declaration received prior to that day will be returned and the candidate shall be permitted to re-submit their declaration during the filing period. Postmarks are not accepted. All mail-in declarations must include the filing fee, if applicable (RCW 29A.24.081).

Declared Write-In Candidates (RCW 29A.24.311)

Declared write-in candidates will be charged a filing fee, if applicable, and will be required to file a Declaration of Candidacy not later than 18 days before the Primary or General Election.

Votes for write-in candidates are tabulated and reported as a combined number for each race. The votes for individual write-in candidates are only identified and reported if the total number of write-in votes cast is enough to make a difference in the outcome of the race.

WITHDRAWAL PERIOD: (RCW 29A.24.131)

A candidate may withdraw their candidacy **in writing through Monday, May 23, 2016**. There is no withdrawal period for declarations filed during a special filing period. Withdrawal may be permitted of a filing for any elected office of a city, town, or special district at the request of the candidate at any time before a primary if the primary ballots for that city, town, or special district have not been ordered. **No filing fee may be refunded to any candidate who withdraws under this section.**

ORDER OF CANDIDATES ON BALLOTS: (RCW 29.36.131)

After the close of business on the last day for candidates to file for office, the filing officer shall, from among those filings made in person and by mail, determine by lot the order in which the names of those candidates will appear on all primary, sample, and absentee ballots. The determination shall be done publicly and may be witnessed by the media and by any candidate. If no primary is required for any nonpartisan office under RCW 29A.52.011 or 29A.52.220, the names shall appear on the general election ballot in the order determined by lot.

